NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

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CONSIDERATIONS
ON THE NECESSITY OF ESTABLISHING AN
AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE,
and having more of the children of wealthy citizens educated for the
PROFESSION OF FARMING.

(Continued from p. 42.)

By the infallible oracles of divine inspiration we are taught, that no man can obtain a good character as a christian, unless he denies himself, takes up his cross—cuts off a right hand, or pulls out an eye, if necessary for his advancement to perfection—Figurative expressions, denoting the extremes of self-denial, fortitude and voluntary suffering. The same doctrine may, with a qualified propriety, be addressed to those who aim at distinction in any of the professions of civil life. Whatever may be the genius or natural powers, there must be the *labor improbus*, hard labor, strong exertions, stuggles against improper propensities, a rigid observance of rules, a radical extermination of evil habits, a scrupulous improvement of time, an unwavering perseverance, and a judicious exercise of a well disciplined reason in the selection of means for the attainment of the objects to be achieved.

A generous youth, anxious about his fate, waked from his reveries, and adverting to his lost or misapplied time, will often exclaim with the poet,

" The bell strikes one!—How much is to be done!
My hopes and fears start up alarm'd,
And o'er life's narrow verge look down—
On what!"

and redouble his exertions so to improve his natural powers as that they may be displayed in a manner the most eminent in the character he has chosen to appear in on the stage of life; diffuse to others the greatest good, and procure for himself the greatest applause, with an approving conscience.

These observations are made to wipe away the flimsy objections which that foolish womanish tenderness, and that contemptible pride, which are the usual concomitants of an imbecility of intellect, may raise against the discipline and labor that will be required by the institution proposed to be created.

But perhaps our young gentlemen, or their foolish sympathising parents, will be afraid that working like a farmer may spoil the delicate complexion of their hands, and destroy that mark by which they are to be distinguished from the vulgar. What a ridiculous notion of merit! What a contrast to the opinions and practice of the most admired eras of antiquity, when man rose in unparalleled grandeur! When Cincinnatus, after having, as dictator of the proudest and most powerful nation on earth, performed such deeds as have shed a superlative lustre of glory about his name, and transmitted it as an object of supreme admiration through every age, returned to the plough, and resumed his occupation as a farmer for a living.

" In ancient time, the sacred plough employ'd
The kings and awful fathers of mankind,
And some, compar'd with whom your insect tribes
Are but the beings of a summer's day,
Have held the scale of empire, rul'd the storm
Of mighty war, then with unwearied hand,
Disdaining little delicacies, seiz'd
The plough, and greatly independent liv'd."

As in our civil institutions we have nearly emancipated ourselves from all the trammels bequeathed by the ages of barbarism, and with which the nations of Europe yet remain shackled, so let us also discard such of their customs, and fashions, and rules of taste, as have not a spark of reason to vindicate them; but on the contrary, must, on the slightest examination, appear notoriously derogatory to that independence and superiority of character of which it is the glory of the Americans to be able to boast.

All kinds of useful labor and hardihood, connected with an unimpeachable morality, and a decorous deportment, deserve respect and honorable treatment; and wherever the contrary is customary, a corruption of manners is indicated, which, so far from descending to emulate, we should treat with the proud scorn of conscious superiority.

Every thing in man of an effeminate cast must detract from his character, and if voluntarily acquired, or cherished as a matter of value, deserves contempt. Such is the lady-like lily hand of a petit maitre; which is about as proper an object to be proud of as the long nails of the Asiatic beaux, cherished and guarded with idolatrous care, to shew that they are above the rank of laborers, and for the preservation of which elegant ivory tubes are worn at the ends of their fingers.

A number of considerations not capable of enumeration, besides those already anticipated, crowd on the reflecting mind in favor of an institution, especially in our country, that shall have for its primary object, instruction in theoretic and practical agriculture. But it may be asked, on the introduction of the subject, why have not institutions of this kind been formed and patronized in older countries, especially in England, where agriculture has so much engaged the attention of its first characters, and where it has been carried to such a height of perfection? The reason is obvious. In most foreign countries the fee of the soil is generally in the gentry, who besides their tenantries, have extensive farms under their immediate superintendence; who make farming in some measure a business, and who can afford to make experiments and communicate such as result in improvements of consequence, to those, who, pursuing a steady course, known to be safe and profitable, will not hazard a departure from it without such a demonstration. Such improvements are moreover communicated to their societies or boards of agriculture, by which they are published for the benefit of the public, and thus constantly reciprocated among all who are engaged in its interests. The sons of such gentlemen farmers, from the practice of which they are the constant witnesses, can hardly fail of acquiring a proficiency in the knowledge of agriculture, so far at least as to qualify them for its superintendence. Thus, then, every landlord's farm, becomes to a certain degree, a school of practical agriculture, where experiments are constantly made, by wealthy, scientific, and practical men, to ascertain the best methods of profitable culture; where the knowledge of it is transmitted as a family inheritance, and sheds its meliorating influence immediately over a wide circle of tenantry, and remotely over the kingdom at large. And even in those countries there are not wanting some arrangements in their academical establishments for teaching the scientific parts, if not the actual practice of agriculture. But here circumstances are widely different. With but very few exceptions, we have no landlords, and fewer still of that class who turn their attention to farming. It is the glory of our country, that with such rare exceptions, every farmer is the absolute, independent lord of his own territory, little as it may be, and works it with his own hands, and by his own hired laborers: His children are his pupils, whom he teaches from their infancy the mysteries of his calling; but the mediocrity of his circumstances, and his habitual prudence will not permit him to hazard experiments for improvements. What he knows of it as practised by his father, will be known by his children, and they will probably during their lives, follow his track without deviation. Under such circumstances, agriculture must remain at a stand, although, like other arts, its past progressive improvements, warrant the presumption that to its future no limits can be assigned.

The Agricultural Societies, organized and brought into action of late, operate principally by the stimulus of emulation; and the good that they are calculated to do, and will unquestionably do, if continued with the spirit with which they have started, and with the improvements which time and experience will indicate, must be great, very great, in a department of business which of all others is the most important to our country. But it is evident that the good derived from them is conveyed through *one* channel, broad indeed and deep, and having attached to it numerous ramifications; still there may be *others* leading to the same port, and as essential to the effectual promotion of our national prosperity. The institution now proposed will not be their rival, but rather a co-operator. Its essential difference of character will be, that, availing itself of all the improvements that have been made, and are constantly making, in the science and practice of agriculture, it will be a school where they will be taught in that perfection to which they have been carried by all those variegated means, and by all the experience of every nation and every age, since men first emerged from a state of barbarism. It is intended not so much to give instruction to farmers as to make farmers from the other classes of society, which are stocked with such a superfluity of members that hordes of them must otherwise remain useless, or worse than useless to the community—and while this is doing it will shed a light over the profession, that may be greatly useful, even to those who are most eminent in it.

The farming department in America cannot be overstocked, at least for centuries before us,

so wide, so vast, so boundless is the field, that imagination cannot grasp the population sufficient to fill it; and it is only in proportion as that flourishes will be the substantial wealth, the power, that grandeur, and the happiness of our country. It is the only solid foundation on which our national prosperity can be erected, and therefore the object, of all others, that ought first and chiefly to engage the attention of government. No rational scheme for its advancement can therefore, consistent with that wisdom which characterises true statesmen, be treated otherwise than with an impartial and a deliberate investigation of its merits; and if found eligible, whatever apparent difficulties may be in the way, its adoption must and will be effected.

It is therefore true policy to draw into this field as many as possible, especially of young men, qualified for it by a suitable education, and possessed of a capital sufficient to conduct their affairs to advantage. But how is such an acquisition to be effected?

At present there is no doubt that there are numbers of men of fortune in our states, and many of them large owners of lands, who would wish to qualify, as farmers, at least some of their sons, and give them suitable establishments as such, but are deterred from it by such considerations as the following.

Success in every profession or calling depends on a perfect knowledge of it. Such knowledge cannot be obtained without actual application for its attainment as a student or apprentice for a competent time. The profession of a farmer, no less than that of a lawyer, a physican, a divine, manufacturer, or of any of the mechanic arts, cannot be duly acquired without such application. For any one to undertake a business with which he is unacquainted, or rather for which he has not been regularly educated, is the height of folly, as it must in all probability eventually ruin him. In every kind of business there will be sharp competitions, and those who are the most adroit and skilful in it, will, with equal means and industry, make the most by it, and those who have not a competent knowledge of it must suffer in its pursuit.

Now, how are the sons of wealthy gentlemen of other professions to acquire such knowledge of agriculture? At present there is no other way than to put them out to serve as apprentices to farmers. To this there are many objections. From their previous education they will not be disposed to submit to the necessarv discipline, and their masters will not have it in their power to enforce it—They may be associated with laborers whose manners will contaminate theirs—They will probably be destitute of all society by which they might be stimulated to further advances in their previous studies and a progress in refinement—Released from adequate restraints, they may be enticed, by profligate companions, into low-bred practices, and contract disgraceful and ruinous habits. And, after all, in the best situations, they could learn little more than the business of a farmer in its most ordinary state.

For all this there is no remedy but an institution like that which is now proposed, the happy tendency of which, when once established, will beyond all doubt be abundantly demonstrated as soon as it shall completely be carried into operation.

It will make agricultural pursuits more fashionable, and engage in them the noblest spring of human activity, the ambition to shine preeminent in a sphere of usefulness, of the most brilliant character, and the widest extended magnitude.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

PREPARING FLAX.

We esteem ourselves fortunate in being permitted to lay before our readers the following extracts from a correspondence between His Excellency the Governor of Connecticut, and S. W. Pomeroy, Esq. of this State. The subject is of great importance, and if it continues to engage the attention of men of mind, influence, character and standing, its discussion may be the means of giving a new staple to New England of little if any less importance than cotton or tobacco to Southern sections of the Union.—ED. N. E. F.

Litchfield, Con. June 25, 1822.

DEAR SIR,

I have read with great satisfaction your Essay on the Cultivation of Flax, and consider it as the best I have seen; what we now want, is a discovery of the best means of extracting the glutinous matter, and decomposing the woody fibre, without fixing the color, so as to render the process of bleaching, difficult and expensive. The common process of rotting in the air, we know will never give us good Flax, and the process of water rotting will not be practised by our people generally; it being a disagreeable and unhealthy business to those employed in it, and besides poisonous to our streams of water.

The extension of our Flax culture, will, in my opinion, greatly depend upon our success in finding out a mode by which common farmers can extract the gluten, and weaken the woody fibre, so as to render Flax, after being stripped of its seeds, manageable by such operations or machines, as can be introduced into common use.

The practical question is therefore, does there, or does there not exist in nature, *a cheap and common* solvent, which can be applied to Flax, *in mass*, by operative farmers?

You live in a part of our country which is deeply interested in this question. You, more probably than any person with whom I am acquainted, can discover this *solvent*, (if it exist,) and the public attention having been much attracted to your publication, your recommendation would have a most extensive and salutary influence.

I therefore take the liberty to request your particular attention to this interesting subject. I feel confident that *the thing desired can be done*, but I cannot command the means of making the necessary experiments: I can only suggest hints, which may be useful.

Flax may, in mass, be subjected to the action of steam. This may of itself extract the glutinous matter, and sufficiently weaken the woody fibre, after being merely dried in the air: Will it fix the color of the plant? The Flax, before steaming, may be soaked in weak lye, with or without lime, or lime water, and with, or without soap suds, and urine. Near the coast, salt water, with and without the combinations before mentioned, may be useful.

Any of the chymical processes of bleaching, may, for ought I can perceive, be as well applied to Flax in mass, before it is broken and dressed, as afterwards. A question must however arise, respecting the expences of all the processes, compared with the value of the Flax, when it has been prepared as an article of commerce.

I send you samples of Flax, which, as I understand, were prepared in Hill & Bundy's Machine. The *yellow* is from Flax which had not been rotted; and the *white* is the same article, after being bleached, by means of soap suds, or a weak solution of muriatic acid.

Your friend and obedient servant,

OLIVER WOLCOTT.

S. W. POMEROY, ESQ.

Brighton, 14th July, 1822.

DEAR SIR,

Your highly valued favor of 29th ult. with samples of *Flax*, prepared in Hill & Bundy's machines, came to hand a few days since.

Soon after the publication of the "Essay on Flax Husbandry," the Board of Trustees of the Massachusetts Agricultural Society, promulgated the offer of liberal rewards for the best experiments on the preparation of Flax, by *boiling*, *steaming*, or *any other* than the usual mode.—Though the quantity required was only 75 lbs. and the period for receiving it continued till the middle of January, none was exhibited; and as the competition was not confined to local bounds, there is reason to believe that the publication of the invention by Messrs. Day & Macdonald, of a machine that would supersede the necessity of *any* preparation, and its successful operation confidently relied on, had an effect to paralize all efforts of the kind.

From the best information I was able to collect, before my Essay went to press, I felt a strong conviction that the machines of Hill & Bundy could not be extensively useful in this country; and if their neglect in G. Britain, except for employing infirm people and children in poor houses and cottages, was not sufficient, I have since received intelligence from a source entitled to confidence, that places the question beyond all doubt. An acquaintance with a gentleman of respectability, lately arrived from England, has furnished interesting facts connected with the present subject, some of which it may be well to state before I attempt a reply to your queries. This person has been extensively engaged in the manufacture of linen by *machinery* at Leeds. He says that "spinning by hand is mostly abandoned; that last year about *twenty thousand* spindles were in operation at Leeds and its vicinity, which worked up *two thousand tons* of flax for fabrics, from the coarsest sort, to those worth three shillings sterling per yard, at as cheap a rate (calculating length and breadth) as cotton is spun, and from flax prepared in the usual way;—that no confidence is placed in the general utility of Hill & Bundy's machines—the price of dressing and bleaching by them being sixpence sterling per pound"—about equal to the cost of the whole material as now used;—that "the advantage of working bleached flax is of no great importance since the discovery and improvements in the process of bleaching with the *oxi muriate of lime*, by which *linen*, even from dew rotted flax, is bleached nearly as cheap as cotton, and, if judiciously applied, without the least danger or injury to the article;—it should also be considered that cloth made from *bleached* flax must be submitted

to a similar process before it is made up for market.

I coincide in the opinion you have expressed, Sir, that "the extension of flax culture will greatly depend upon finding out a mode by which common farmers can extract the glutinous matter and weaken the woody fibre, so as to render the flax manageable by such operations or machines as can be introduced into common use," and sincerely regret my inability to adduce facts in answer to your question, "does there or does there not exist in nature a *cheap* and *common* solvent which can be applied to flax, *in mass*, by operative farmers?" Feeling, like yourself, confident that "*the thing desired can be done*," and, although possessed of no data derived from experiments, as you have desired my opinion on the subject I shall submit a few remarks which will pass for what they may be worth.

The candor and liberality manifested by Mr. *Dey*, and the spirit with which he pursues his object, are to be admired; but admitting that his most sanguine expectations will be realized in the successful operation of his machines for seperating the fibre or harle from the stem of the plant, yet the very important process of cleansing it from the *glutinous matter* remains to be performed, and the question occurs, "can not this be done, *in the large way*, as *cheap*, and with much less hazard by common farmers with the *raw stem*, as with the fibres after they are separated?" I am inclined to believe that it can. The only objection is the expense and inconvenience of managing a more bulky article; but will not the *dressed* flax require equal labor in dividing it into minute parcels for the cleansing process, and uncommom care in handling and drying to prevent immense waste? By applying the solvent to the *stem*, it is reasonable to suppose that the "woody fibre" would be weakened to such a degree that much less power will be required to separate it, and of course less complicated and expensive machines.

It is not probable that the end we are seeking will be *efficiently* attained without the aid of *heat*. *Steam* even from pure water is a most powerful solvent; and I have great faith that with a proper menstruum, it may be successfully applied by *common farmers*. I am led to this conclusion by its operation with a perfectly simple apparatus in *washing clothes*—by far the greatest and most economical improvement yet discovered to disarm *washing day* of its terrors. It consists of a *pot* or *boiler*, with a *close cover*, in which a *tin* or *leaden tube* is inserted, and a *tub* or *box* with a similar *cover*. The *clothes*, after being wet and a little *soap* rubbed on the most soiled parts of them, are laid upon slats or shelves in the tub or box, the tube is then connected with it, and the boiler nearly filled with water mixed with a weak solution of *potash* or *ley* from the *leach tub*, a fire is put under the boiler late in the afternoon, it boils during the evening and is left simmering till morning, when the clothes are taken out; and they must have been very foul to require any more labor than rinsing once or twice to make them perfectly clean. Now this process is managed by common house maids! What is to prevent *them*, the wives and daughters of farmers and even farmers themselves from attending to a similar process on a larger scale? I apprehend no danger from *steam*, in fixing any *stain* or *color*, that may be communicated by the plant.

We will now inquire for a menstruum within the reach of "common farmers," and it will not be necessary for the present object to combine the bleaching process, though it may follow in a considerable degree. I would here observe that there was an important omission in copying my Essay for the press, in quoting from the transactions of the *Swedish Academy*, of the application of *birch ashes* spread between the layers of flax before the *salt water* was turned on for boiling. Should such a process be found beneficial, *sea water* can be easily and cheaply imitated in the interior country.

Mr. Dey asserts that the materials he has discovered for cleaning and bleaching flax dressed by his machine, "are abundant in every farmer's house." I shall be much mistaken in my conjectures if *ashes*, *salt*, and perhaps *lime*, with *vegetable acid* or *sour milk* are not the principal constituents of his secret!

The substances used in bleaching, will, I believe, either combined or separate, afford the best solvent within our knowledge, for the object in view; and *acids* are considered of primary and indispensable importance; they were formerly produced by the fermentation of *rye meal* or *bran*—*sour milk* was also used as extensively as it could be obtained. But it has been found that a weak solution of *sulphuric acid* answers the same purpose—is more convenient and much cheaper. Oil of vitriol in a highly concentrated state is now manufactured in Boston, and sold at not more than eight cents per pound—one pound of which is said to be sufficient to acidulate two hundred gallons of water. It is probable however that five pounds to that quantity of water, if thoroughly mixed, would not injure the material and accelerate the process.

When we reflect upon the *rationale* of the preparation of flax by the usual method of steeping in water, it appears that it is the *acid* produced by the acetous fermentation that dissolves the glutinous matter; the mere act of fermentation has no other effect than to give *motion* to the *liquid*, as has been demonstrated by eminent bleachers in Great Britain when comparing the effect of sulphuric acid with that produced by fermentation. It is true that by *steeping*, the putrid fermentation which rapidly follows the acetous, hastens the operation and more readily decomposes the *woody fibre*, but with manifest injury to the material! Now it requires ten or fourteen days to prepare flax by *steeping*, when done in cool weather as it should be; if this can be effected in half as many hours with sulphuric acid, even with the expense of *heat*, may it not be the cheapest solvent?

It should be kept in view, that there is a *cellular* oil in flax, which an alkaline ley destroys; this is apparent from the harshness of *linen yarn* that has been boiled in it—the decomposition of this oil may be necessary to the completely bleaching of *fine goods*, but it is important to retain it for *sail cloth*, as not only rendering it *soft* and *pliable*, but as a preservative against *mildew*. The *steam* from such ley however, is supposed not to produce that effect.

Whether the *oxi-muriate of lime*, the principal agent now used for bleaching, may be successfully applied as a solvent to the raw stem of flax, can be determined only by experiments; the materials for forming it are abundant and cheap. A *formula* I met with some years ago, requires 60 lbs. of *finely powdered quicklime* and 30 lbs. of *common salt* to be mixed with 140 gallons of water in the receiver; into the distilling vessel is put 30 lbs. of *salt*, with 30 lbs. of *manganese*, which are to be well mixed, and 30 lbs. of oil of vitriol, diluted with the same weight of water, turned on. But I am told that great improvements have been made of late—that it is prepared in the *dry way*, which renders it conveniently *portable*, and is sold to the bleachers at a very cheap rate.*

Perhaps the simple *muriate of lime* would answer the purpose; in that case the expense would be much lessened, and the operation so simplified as to render it convenient to be used by *operative farmers*.

I should feel extremely happy, Sir, was it in my power, to institute a course of experiments agreeably to your suggestions, and which your partiality supposes me capable of performing; but a pressure of domestic avocations, together with preparations for an expected absence from home, of some months continuance in the autumn, wholly preclude such attempts. At the same time I beg you to rest assured that I shall always feel ambitious, to the extent of my ability, to co-operare for the promotion of RURAL ECONOMY, with one who has devoted so great a portion of life for the advancement of the substantial interests of his country.

With respectful and sincere attachment,
I remain, sir, your obedient servant,
S. W. POMEROY.

His Ex'y OLIVER WOLCOTT,
Litchfield, Con.

*The substance of the mode of preparing Bleaching Powder, according to as late an improvement as any we have seen, is as follows:

Oxygenated muriatic acid is capable of forming a compound with calcareous earth, and with the earths barytes, strontites, and magnesia, in the dry way, that is, without these earths being either suspended, or dissolved in water; and this is effected merely by bringing the oxygenated muriatic gas into contact with these earths in form of lumps, pieces, powder or paste, or into contact with mixtures of them, with such other bodies in the above forms, as do not impede or hinder their attraction for the acid. It has been found that the oxygenated muriates of lime, and of the earths mentioned above, thus formed, when mixed with water, possess the power of removing color from linen, cotton, and various other vegetable and animal substances, and have been profitably applied for that purpose. *See Repertory of Arts, vol. xii. p. 1, sec. series.*

If we mistake not, Sir Humphrey Davy, in one of his lectures has intimated that there is danger lest the caustic powers of oxy-muriate of lime should injure the texture of the material to be bleached; and he therefore prefers magnesia as one of the ingredients of bleaching powder to lime. Simple muriate of lime, as recommended by Mr. Pomeroy, deserves experiment, and perhaps lime slacked with sea water, or salt in solution with water, would be found useful. Care however is necessary not to apply caustic substances of too great strength, and in every case to thoroughly rinse the goods in pure water after every application of a bleaching substance, of the nature above described.

Ed. N. E. Farmer.

Robbing Gardens.—Several indictments and convictions, of boys and youths, have taken place in various parts of the State, for violations of the statute made to prevent depredations upon orchards, gardens and fruit-yards.—Its penalties are very severe, and yet we are glad that a disposition prevails to enforce it.

Worcester Spy

CATTLE SHOW,
EXHIBITION OF MANUFACTURES, AND PLOUGHING MATCH,
At Worcester, on Wednesday, September 25, 1822.

The Trustees of the *Worcester County Agricultural Society*, propose to their fellow citizens a Cattle Show, Ploughing Match, and Exhibition of Manufactures, at Worcester, on WEDNESDAY, the 25th day of September next, at 9 o'clock, A. M.—and they have the pleasure of offering the following liberal Premiums, much increased in amount from the last year.

For the best Bull, not less than one year old	$15
For the next best	10
For the best Bull Calf, from 4 to 12 months old	6
For the next best	4
For the best Milch Cow, not less then three years old, and from a stock of not less than five Cows kept together	15
For the best Milch Cow, not less than three years old, and from a stock of not less than three Cows kept together	10
For the next best Milch Cow, whether kept alone or with others	8
For the best Heifer from 1 to 3 years old past	6
For the next best	5
For the best Heifer Calf from 4 to 12 months old	5
For the next best	4
For the best pair of Working Oxen, not less than four years old, regard being had to the strength, equality of match, and docility of the cattle, as well as to their size and appearance	15
For the next best	12
For the next best	10
For the next best	5
For the best pair of *four* years old Steers, not offered for work	10
For the best pair of *three* years old Steers	8
For the next best	5
For the best pair of *two* years old Steers	7
For the next best	4
For the best pair of *yearling* Steers	5
For the next best	3
For the best Ox fitted for slaughter, regard being had to the mode and expense of fattening	15
For the next best	10
For the best Merino Ram, regard being had both to fleece and size	10
For the next best	5
For the best Merino Ewes, not less than four in number	10
For the next best do.	5
For the best *two* Merino Wethers	4
For the best lot of mixed Merino Sheep, not less than *five* in number, either Ewes or Weathers, regard being had to the quality of fleece for the grade	5
For the best Native Ram	5
For the best Native Ewes, not less than four in number	4
For the best Boar, not less than six months old, nor more than two years and six months old	10
For the best breeding Sow, not less than one year old	6
For the best weaned Pigs, not less than four in number	4

None of the animals will be entitled to Premiums unless they are wholly the product of the County, excepting, that with a view to encourage the introduction of improved Stock, the Trustees will pay the premiums which may be awarded for Bulls, Rams, and Boars, raised within the State and brought into the County at least four months before the day of Exhibition, upon receiving satisfactory security that they shall be kept for use within the County at least one year next after.

In awarding the Premiums upon all Stock, regard will be had to the manner and expense of raising and keeping. And the owner will be required to give a satisfactory account thereof to the appropriate Committee on the day of Exhibition—as it is the intention of the Trustees to encourage that Stock, which not only may *appear* best at the *Show*, but which, in reference to the cost, is most profitable to the Farmer.

The Trustees with a view to the most liberal encouragement of the Citizens of the County who live remote from the place of Exhibition, propose to *increase* the rate of compensation for travel to *eight* cents per mile, to the owners of such animals as obtain premiums, and which are brought or driven more than *ten* miles, computing from the place from which the animals come to the place of the Show.

No animal for which to any owner one premium shall have been awarded, shall be considered a subject for any future premium of the Society, except it be for qualities different from those for which the former premium was awarded.

Persons intending to offer any species of Stock for premium, must give notice thereof, either by letter, post paid, or by personal application to the Recording Secretary, on or before the 24th of September, (the day preceding the Show) at 9 o'clock in the evening, requesting him to enter his application, so that Tickets for the Pens may be ready by 8 o'clock the next morning. The difficulty of making arrangements for the proper accommodation of the different species of Stock, without such previous notice, renders a strict enforcement of this rule indispensable—and no person will be considered as a competitor, who shall not have made such application for entry, on or before the time above specified.

In all cases where the age of animals is mentioned, the applicant must file his own certificate, or that of some other respectable individual, who personally knows the fact, that they are of the age for which they are entered, and also that they are the product of the County.

DOMESTIC MANUFACTURES.

To the *person* or *Corporation* who shall exhibit the best double set of Machine Cards	$20
The best superfine Broadcloth, dyed in the Wool, not less than six quarters wide, exclusive of the list, and twenty yards in length	15
The best superfine Cassimere, dyed in the Wool, not less than three quarters wide, and 20 yards in length	10
The best Carpeting four quarters wide, and not less than 30 yards in length	15
The best Carpeting three quarters wide, and not less than 30 yards in length	10
The best sole Leather not less than 100 lbs.	10
The best manufactured Calf-Skins not less than 12 in number	10
The best manufactured Morocco Leather or Goat Skins, not less than six in number	6

TO THE PERSON WHO SHALL EXHIBIT OF HOUSEHOLD MANUFACTURE,

The best Woollen Cloth, not less than three quarters wide, and 20 yards in length	$8
The next best	5
The best Flannel not less than 7-8ths wide and 20 yards in length	10
The next best	5
The best Shirting Cloth of linen warp and tow or cotton filling 7-8ths wide and 20 yds. in length, and bleached,	5
The next best	3
The best Woollen Coverlid not less than 2 1-2 yards wide	4
The best Linen or tow Diaper five quarters wide and not less than 20 yards in length	8
The best Linen or tow Diaper four quarters wide and not less than 20 yards in length	5
The best Woollen half stockings for men, not less than two pairs	2
The best Specimen of Sewing Silk of assorted colors, and not less than two pounds in quantity	10
The best Butter not less than 30 lbs.	7
The next best	5
The next best	3
The best lot of Cheese not less than 100 lbs. of the manufacture of the same person	10
The next best	5

[The specimens of Butter and Cheese must be accompanied with a particular account of the manner in which the same was made and preserved, and the butter must be exhibited in plain unpainted boxes or tubs.]

Every article of manufacture offered for Premium, must be entered with the Recording Secretary, and delivered to the person appointed to receive them, before 11 o'clock in the forenoon of the day *preceding* the Exhibition. And all manufactures, when presented, must have a private mark, and any public or known mark must be completely concealed, so as not to be seen or known by the Committee—nor must the Proprietors be present when they are examined; and the goods must not be removed until 5 o'clock of the day of Exhibition, unless by permission of the Committee of Arrangements: in default of either of which requisitions, the articles will not be entitled to consideration or premium.

PLOUGHINC MATCH.

The Trustees also propose to unite with the *Cattle Show*, a PLOUGHING MATCH, *on the same day*, and to give Premiums to the owners and Ploughmen of the *four Ploughs*, which shall be adjudged by a competent Committee, to have performed the *best work with the least expense of labor*, upon a plot of ground not exceeding one fourth of an acre, with a Plough drawn by one or more yoke of Oxen. In the three first cases, if there be no driver, both sums for ploughmen and driver to be awarded to the ploughman.

First Plough,	$10	Third Plough,	$6
Ploughman,	5	Ploughman,	3
Driver,	3	Driver,	1
Second Plough,	8	Fourth Plough,	4
Ploughman,	4	Ploughman,	2
Driver,	2		

As the great object of this part of the Exhibition is to excite emulation in the *use* and *construction* of the *most Important Instrument of Agriculture*, the PLOUGH, the competitors in the Ploughing Match must own their respective Ploughs and Cattle, and the Ploughman, if he be not the owner, must be a man employed on the owner's farm. Those persons who design to become competitors must give notice in writing to the Recording Secretary, on or before the 15th day of September next, that suitable ground may be obtained, the proper number of Lots measured and marked out, and the requisite arrangements made for the occasion. The Ploughs must be on the ground designated, ready to start together precisely at 9 o'clock, A. M. as this will be the first public business of the day attended to. Such arrangements will be made that the Cattle engaged in the Ploughing Match, and which may also be entered for premiums as working oxen, may have opportunity to be well refreshed before *they* are subjected to examination and trial. Cattle or Ploughs, which have heretofore obtained a premium in the Ploughing Match, will not be entitled again to a premium unless for excelling in a *higher* degree.

Competitors for Premiums of every description will be held to a rigid compliance with the foregoing Rules, as well as such other Rules and Regulations as shall be published by the respective committees of Premiums hereafter to be appointed and the Committee of Arrangements for the occasion.

In cases where, for want of competition, the claimants upon a literal construction of these proposals might be entitled to premiums, the Trustees shall be at liberty to reject the claim, unless the animal, or manufactured article, is of superior quality and value.

No person will be allowed two premiums, as for the *best* and *next best* of an animal or article *of the same description*, it being the object of the Trustees to encourage competition, by distributing premiums, as much as possible, among the deserving; and no owner of any number of premium animals will be entitled to more than one allowance for travel.

From the premiums awarded there will be discounted *twenty-five* per cent. in the payment to those persons who, at the time, are not Members of the Society; and no premium will be awarded for animals to any person who, at the time, is not the owner, nor for manufactured articles, unless they were manufactured within the County—and no premium will be paid to any person who is not an inhabitant of the County.

Premiums will be paid within 30 days after they are awarded; but if not demanded within four months, they will be considered relinquished, and the amount will be added to the funds of the Society.

LEVI LINCOLN,
BENJAMIN ADAMS,
LOVETT PETERS,
NATHANIEL P. DENNY,
DANIEL TENNEY,
} *Committee of Premiums.*

Worcester, April 15, 1822.

FOR THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

POTATOES.

Having heard many different opinions respecting the best method of preparing seed potatoes for planting, some saying that it is best to plant large ones whole, others that small ones are equally as good, while others say they will produce most to cut them in pieces, with one eye in each piece, or only eyes cut out of large potatoes they say will do well, and lastly some affirm that the parings taken off when preparing them for the pot will produce a good crop.

About the beginning of May, 1821, I prepared a small piece of land, on which I planted seven rows with four hills in each row, as follows:

1st Row—One potatoe weighing about 7 oz. in each hill.
2d—One of the same size, cut in four pieces, in each hill.
3d—Three whole potatoes, weighing each 2 oz. in each hill.
4th—Six of the same size cut into quarters, and six quarters placed in each hill.
5th—Some middling large potatoes cut into pieces, with one eye in each piece, and five pieces put in each hill.
6th—Cut 24 eyes out of large potatoes, and put six in a hill.
7th—Put a small handful of parings in each hill.

The quality of the land was equal, not rich, no manure was applied, the rows all came up well, and were all hoed and treated alike thro' the summer.

About the beginning of October I had them taken up, and the produce was as follows:

The 1st row yielded		17 lb.	7 oz.
2d	do	22	7
3d	do	10	7
4th	do	14	7
5th	do	16	11
6th	do	11	00
7th	do	10	00

The hills stood three feet distant each way, which makes 4840 in an acre. Allowing a bushel of potatoes to weigh 60 lbs. the products of the different rows would be nearly as follows:

1st row, 350 bushels per acre.
2d row, 450 — 5th row, 339
3d row, 210 — 6th row, 222
4th row, 307 — 7th row, 202

It is evident, from the above statement, that large potatoes are much better for seed than small ones, and that it is better to cut them than to plant them whole.

About the same time I took a quantity of middling large potatoes, and cut off the but and top ends from each, and cut the middle pieces into quarters, and planted a row with buts, another row with tops, and the third with middles, and placed five pieces in each hill throughout the whole. I did not weigh nor measure the produce, but found that the middle pieces produced much the largest crop. The produce of the other two rows were about equal; by which it appears that to reject both ends and plant the middles only, will produce much the best crop. J. W.

Ryegate, Vt. Sept. 2, 1822.

From the National Intelligencer.

To Medical Gentlemen.

I have lately been amusing myself with a work published by Mr. J. L. Chabert, at New Orleans, entitled "Medical reflections on the malady vulgarly called Yellow Fever;" to which he gives the new denomination of *Spasmodico Lipyriene*, or spasmodic burning fever. It is full of information respecting the symptoms of this terrible disorder, and of acute remarks on the suggestions of all prior observers. Mr. Chabert states, that by numerous dissections, he has found that the liver is not affected. The bleeding of the nose and inflammations of the throat, &c. are the first diagnostics, and after that a delusive ease succeeds, and then the black vomit.

Quere.—Whether animalculæ inhaled do not first cause the spasms by inflammation, and whether mortification does not ensue? Persons not acclimated are the greatest sufferers. I have seen Europeans, arriving in Asia, when stung by musquetoes, suffer inflammation in an extraordinary manner. May not the same effect be produced by inhaling insects, imperceptible to the human eye, by the nose and throat? That putrid matter will produce insects, has been proved by various experiments; and I have read in your valuable widely circulated paper, that magnifying glasses have been constructed to discover insects in the lungs of those who have died of consumption.

I am not a medical practioner, and hope to be excused for venturing to submit this hint to the scientific. A boy darting a random arrow once made it pass through a small ring which practised archers in vain attempted to shoot through. Thus, I, by a guess, may give a beneficial idea, which superior judgments may improve upon. H.

☞ NOTE.—Let the doctrine of animalculæ being in the air, receive due consideration.—Iron, Magnesia and Salts, may be in the most transparent water. Air is composed, we know, of fixed portions of hydrogen, azote and oxygen, but flies, &c. may exist in it. Animation may be in the minutest objects; the microscope discloses the wonders of our Creator in the smallest degree.

ON CATCHING COLD.

As there were few men more attentive to tracing the cause of natural effects, or more ready and ingenious in accounting for them than Dr. Franklin, his opinions on any such subjects are therefore deserving our special attention. Thus, on the subject of catching cold, he alledged, that instead of a cold being contracted by the body's being exposed to some external cause which may stop the insensible perspiration, such as cold air blowing partially on some part of the body, its continuing during some time wet, &c. a feast, or some excess in eating or drinking will be generally found to have preceded. In confirmation of this opinion, he observed, that those who led temperate lives seldom caught cold, even though their constitutions and habits of body might seem little able to withstand the effects of such causes.

I was a witness of what I thought a singular instance of the truth of this opinion. Upon my mentioning it to a gentleman, who eats no animal food, and drinks no fermented liquor or spirits, he said he would give it a fair trial. He accordingly, early on the first dewy summer morning, walked among long grass till his feet and legs were perfectly wet, and continued out of doors from 6 till 8, and when he came in to breakfast could not be prevailed upon to have dry shoes and stockings till he returned to dress at noon. No cold ensued, though wet feel are reckoned among the most frequent causes of taking cold. He afterwards thanked me much for freeing him from many restraints founded, as he now experienced, on prejudice.

Dr. Franklin remarked, that those who eat no suppers, especially after plentiful dinners, were much less liable to catch cold, for they thereby avoided adding a quantity of indigested juice with what are, in some degree, in a digested state. They who make their supper their principal meal do not suffer by it, because the stomach being pretty empty, an improper mixture of juices does not enter the lacteals.

SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION.

On Friday afternoon the barn of Mr. George Shute, of Malden, containing ten tons of hay, all his farming utensils, and a chaise, was consumed by fire. Mr. S. with another man, was at work in a field near the barn, when the fire burst out; but nothing could be done to save it. This is another instance of spontaneous combustion, proceeding probably from the too green or damp state of the hay, as it is almost certain there had been no fire conveyed to the barn, by any direct or accidental means.

From Niles' Register.

FLAX.

Another machine has been invented by Samuel Davidson, of Romulus, N. Y. for dressing flax. Its whole cost, including the patent right, is only forty dollars. It has been tried by many of the most respectable farmers. They estimate the saving in the labor at three fourths, and the saving in flax at one fifth, compared with the common mode; while it leaves the texture of the thread unbroken. By the use of this machine the process of *rotting* may be dispensed with, as it will answer for dressing the flax either with or without rotting.

This improvement promises to be extensively useful—its price is small that every neighborhood may easily have a machine. Flax is an article of easy cultivation and great product, if the process of rotting and usual way of cleaning it can be dispensed with, and must become an important staple to the people of the interior for home use, and transport to the seaboard, &c. A pound of flax may be carried any given distance as readily as a pound of corn, pork, &c. The cost of transportation will be the same; but the amount of that cost as to the relative value of the article, will be essentially different. The seed too if crushed and made into oil, will always find a ready market, and better pay charges for carriage than any sort of provisions that our farmers can raise in the interior. Oil mills may be erected at a small expense, and would yield large profits to their owners, if the supply of seed were abundant, in any part of our country west of the mountains.

We feel both publicly and personally interested in the cultivation of flax and the use of flaxen goods—publicly, because it will add much to the national prosperity; privately, because we cannot have good *paper* without flaxen rags to make it of.

From the Montreal Gazette of August 31.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT FOR AUGUST.

The cutting of grain became common from the 10th to the 15th of the month; about the 19th the weather was very unfavorable for rural or harvest affairs; very heavy rains with warm growing weather, which lasted some time, have done considerable damage to Grain lying on the ground (the common way in this country) as it has rendered the straw black, and caused the crop to spring or sprout. If the Canadian farmers would bind and shock their crops as they cut them, like old country farmers, it would be a great saving of fodder to them in rainy seasons; indeed we have had more wet weather this summer than in the three preceding.

Towards the latter end of the month, we had excellent dry days, with a strong or good breeze which has enabled the farmers to house a great part of their crops, and a few fine days will finish the bulk of the harvest.

Grass seeds have generally taken well and after grass looks fine.

Of Turnips little is heard, but Mangel Wurtzel is much recommended by all who have raised it; the quantity on an acre is said to be very great and it is not subject to be injured by the fly or grasshoppers.

Cutting Hay on natural wet meadows has been attended with much trouble, and some very extensive fields are still uncut, being overflowed with water.

Stock of all kinds is in excellent condition; milch cows are very scarce, bees have thriven well this summer, and it is a matter of surprise and regret that they are not more generally kept both for the profit they give, and the good example they set before us. Laborers are in abundance, good reapers have been commonly paid from 1s. 6d. to 1s. 10d. per day.

A pair of the beautiful and gigantic nondescrip Elks, known by the Indians of the Upper Missouri (where they have been lately discovered) by the name of Wapetti, arrived here on Monday se'n-night on their way to London. These noble animals are the size of the horse, with immense spreading horns; their form the most perfect model of strength and beauty, combining the muscular strength of a race horse, with the lightness and agility of a greyhound; are capable, with ease, of drawing a carriage or carrying a person more than twenty miles an hour. They are perfectly domesticated, and of the most amiable and gentle disposition. Their flesh is esteemed the finest of venison; and as the female is on the point of producing young, no doubt is entertained of adding this most noble and interesting quadruped to our stock of domestic animals. They will be exhibited for a few days at Stoakes' Rooms, next door to the Athenæum, in Church street.—*Liverpool paper.*

THE FARMER.

BOSTON:—SATURDAY, SEPT. 14, 1822.

To Readers, Correspondents, Well-wishers, Advisers, &c. &c.

We have been eminently favored, since the commencement of the New England Farmer, with a multitude of counsellors, who have from time to time volunteered opinions respecting the course it was best for us to pursue in conducting the publication. But, it unfortunately so happens that but rarely any two of our monitors agree in their precepts; and as we cannot, at the same moment, move in a great variety of opposite directions, we shall take in good part, what was doubtless well meant, but hope to be excused, if we do not exactly conform to rules and regulations, which do not always accord with each other, any better than with our own views of the subjects to which they relate. Still we are happy to receive counsel, though for the reasons above mentioned we cannot always comply with it. Besides, our advisers, surely, do not wish to be our controllers; and if they will kindly continue to *shed light on our paths*, we will spare them the trouble of *directing our feet.*

The gentleman who advises us to write a "System of Georgicks, after the manner of Virgil," borrowing hints from the "elegant works of Darwin," &c. is respectfully informed that if we had talents, we have not time to spare for such a purpose. A number of years (certainly not less than nine according to Horace) would be requisite to complete such a work; and by the time it was finished, a considerable part would probably become obsolete by improvements which are every day unfolding. We believe, moreover, that the principles of science, and the details of art, are, generally speaking, better given in plain prose than in the "linked sweetness" of Dr. Darwin's most mellifluous modulations. For instance, Dr. Darwin's poetical description of the Steam Engine would hardly serve as a specification to enable a workman to build a machine of the kind; and should even a greater than Darwin undertake to give versified accounts of many of the most useful modern improvements in agriculture, ninety-nine in a hundred of the cultivators of the soil

"Would read, and read, then raise their eyes in doubt,
"And gravely ask—*Pray what's all this about?*"

Georgicks, and poetical descriptions of rural occupations and amusements, are, however, very pretty articles, and we should be glad of an assortment for the benefit of *some* of our readers, who like our correspondent alluded to, have taste enough to read and relish such things. *Our* attention must, however, for the present, be more directed to the wants of the many than the taste of a few.

A gentleman from Vermont writes to us as follows, "We have tried your receipt for using elder juice [see page 3,] in a large dairy, on two or three cheeses that were much cracked, and from which it was difficult to keep the flies that produce skippers. The experiment answers perfectly—the flies do not even approach that part of the pantry. No doubt it will answer other valuable purposes."

The gentleman who has given us an account of his experiments with Seed Potatoes will accept our thanks, and is requested to continue his favors.

The articles on "Preparing Flax," in the preceding pages, merit much attention from all who feel an interest in developing the natural resources of our country. We hope new lights will be elicited from actual experiments, whose details and results we should be happy to publish.

ON SAVING AND MAKING THE MOST OF MANURE.

No soil will always prove productive without manure. Though naturally fertile as the garden of Eden, if it is always giving and never receiving, it will at length become as barren as a desert. Manure then, in farming, is all in all. It is that without which there will soon be

"Nothing in the house—nor in the barn neither."

Particular spots, like Egypt, and other alluvial or intervale lands, which are annually overflowed, derive manure from the bountiful hand of nature, and cannot be exhausted by bad husbandry. Some soils likewise are not easily exhausted, and are easily recruited, in consequence of being so organized as to attract from air and water the principles of fertility.

But if the soil is *naturally barren* it may be *made fertile.* If land in its natural state be good for nothing but to hold the globe together (as some have quaintly expressed it) it may be made abundantly fruitful by being mixed with certain earths, composts, dung, &c. together with a judicious rotation of crops. "In the

Payes de Waes, in Flanders, sand is cultivated to great perfection. The soil of that district, which was originally a barren white sand, has been converted into a most fertile loam."* This was effected by suitable applications of clay, marle, vegetable and animal manure, deep ploughing, turning in green crops, &c. The most barren pitch-pine or shrub-oak plains in New England may be rendered fertile by similar processes. And in many instances it is better thus to convert a piece of poor land, which is favorably situated as regards government, the state of society, the market, &c. into an excellent farm, than to seek a farm in the wilderness, where there is neither government, society, nor any of the comforts and enjoyments of civilized life; and which, with all these disadvantages, cannot be rendered productive without a great deal of labor and expense.

The principal agent in converting a barren to a fruitful soil must be manure; either fossil manure, (such as the earths, salts and alkalies) or animal and vegetable manure, composed of decayed and decaying animal and vegetable substances. Our observations, at present, will be confined to the latter kind.

A controversy has existed for some years, relative to the degree of fermentation which manure ought to undergo, before it is applied to the soil. Some agriculturists are advocates for long, fresh, or unfermented manure, and others contend that it should never be spread on the field till the fibrous texture of the vegetable matter is entirely broken down, and it becomes perfectly cold, and so soft that it may be easily cut by a spade.

Sir Humphrey Davy, whose authority, on subjects of this kind, should not lightly be called in question, observes, "If the pure dung of cattle is to be used as manure there seems no reason why it should be made to ferment except in the soil; or if suffered to ferment it should be only in a very slight degree. The grass in the neighborhood of recently voided dung is always coarse and dark green; some persons have attributed this to a noxious quality in unfermented dung; but it seems to be rather the result of an excess of food furnished to the plants.

"During the violent fermentation, which is necessary for reducing farm-yard manure to the state in which it is called *short muck*, not only a large quantity of fluid, but likewise of gaseous matter is lost; so much so, that the dung is reduced one half or two thirds in weight; and the principal elastic matter disengaged, in carbonic acid with some ammonia; and both of these, if retained by the moisture in the soil, are capable of becoming useful nourishment of plants.

"It is usual to carry straw that can be employed for no other purpose to the dunghill to ferment and decompose; but it is worth an experiment whether it may not be more economically applied, when chopped small by a propor machine, and kept dry till it is ploughed in for the use of a crop. In this case, though it would decompose much more slowly, and produce less effect at first, yet its influence would be more lasting."

The Farmer's Magazine, a British periodical work of celebrity, opposes this theory of Sir Humphrey Davy. The conductor says that he "has known dung and litter, which had been turned down fresh in the furrow appear the next spring without any visible change.—Of course it must have lain dormant, without contributing to the growth of the plants. Dry wheat straw was regularly laid in the hollow of drills, and potatoes planted above the straw. Both were then covered with earth; but very few of the potatoes ever came above ground, and these only towards the end of autumn. When the field was afterwards ploughed, the straw seemed to have undergone no change; nor did it convey any sensible benefit to future crops. Had the same straw been previously subjected to only a moderate fermentation in the dung-yard, there can be no doubt but its effects would have been very different."

The Hon. Richard Peters, of Penn. is likewise opposed to the use of unfermented manures. He observes in a letter to the Hon. Mr. Quincy, that "straw muck cannot be regularly spread. The animal matter is not mixed with the straw, but lies in masses *per se* [by itself.] This over ferments, and throws up your crops in bunches or spots, over luxuriantly; and it lays, smuts, or mildews. The earth prevents fermentation in the straw; and this dry rots, and becomes a *caput mortuum*, [dead useless mass.] I have experienced this effect over and over again. I think reasonably fermented dung goes further. All the straw and additional matter is impregnated, and being decomposed, spreads with the animal ejections more equally, and to infinitely better advantage, assisting your crops in more points, and operating efficiently on the whole."*

Mr. Robert Smith, President of the Maryland Agricultural Society, appears to entertain a different opinion on this subject. This gentleman in an Address to the Maryland Agricultural Society observes, "with respect to stable dung I shall, for the present, content myself by barely suggesting that my experience strongly inclines me to the opinion that, however long, it ought to be ploughed into the ground, without any previous stirring, and as soon as practicable after it shall have been taken from the farm yard."†

*Code of Agriculture.

*See *Mass. Agricultural Repository, vol. iv, p.* 328.
†See *American Farmer, vol. iv, p.* 82.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

The orchard of Mr. Stephen Osborn, of Danvers, has produced an apple this season, weighing *nineteen and a half ounces!*

More magnificent yet!—We yesterday (says the Salem Gazette of Tuesday,) received an apple which grew on the tree of Col. Pickman's orchard, South fields, under the care of that industrious and persevering husbandman, Mr. Erastus Ware, which weighed *twenty ounces*, large.

Mr. B. V. Clench, of New York, has raised a *cucumber* this year, measuring 23 inches in length, 12 in circumference, and weighing 5 lbs. 12 oz.

In a letter from James Whiton, Esq. of Lee, to the Editor of the Berkshire Star, he says, "I have raised the present season, on one acre of land belonging to my farm, *eighty-five bushels of oats.*"

Munificent.—The honorable Stephen Van Rensselaer has engaged Prof. A. Eaton, of Troy, to take a Geological and Agricultural Survey of the Great Canal rout from Albany to Buffalo, a distance of 380 miles. The survey is to include the breadth of ten miles.

A most horrid transaction took place in the jail in this city on Friday night, September 6, about 12 o'clock. It appears that Howard Trask, Francis Durgen and John Newman were all confined in one room. At about midnight, Trask got up and went to Newman's bed, where he was asleep, and without giving him the least notice of his intention, with a sharp instrument of some kind he cut open his stomach. Durgen who was in another part of the room awoke, and coming to Newman's assistance was met by Trask, who stabbed him in the breast in several places, and he probably would have inhumanly butchered them both had not their cries brought the watchmen to their assistance. They are both considered dangerously wounded. Trask is the person who was concerned with Green at the State Prison riot in October last, and was acquitted on the ground of insanity—Newman and Durgen are confined for theft. Trask refused to answer any questions put to him respecting the affair; nor hath the instrument used by him as yet been discovered.

Evening Gazette.

Sickness.—Within the last three weeks, nine persons have died in Guildhall, Vt. and eleven in Northumberland, N. H. of Dysentery. The extraordinary mortality is among children from six months to twelve years old. And although the disease is called the dysentery, yet it puts on a different appearance from the common and ordinary disorder known by that name. The public may expect hereafter a more particular account of the progress of this disease, and the treatment of it, by some of the Physicians attending on it.

Octavius Pickering, Esq. is appointed by the Governor and Council, Reporter of the Decisions of the Supreme Judicial Court of this Commonwealth, in the place of Mr. Tyng, who has resigned the office.

A second Lambert!—There is a gentleman living in the town of Centerharbour, in this State, Mr. Caleb Towle, a wealthy and respectable farmer, whose height is 5 feet 10 inches, girth 7 feet, and weight 515 pounds. He is obliged to use a second chair for the more bulky part of his frame.—*Portsmouth Journal.*

Dartmouth College.—On Thursday, the 22d ult. the prize declamations took place at this Seminary. The prizes were awarded to George K. Pomroy, of *Boston*, Michael Lovell, George Boardman, and John Chamberlain, members of the College.

At 11 o'clock, the exercises of the Phi Beta Kappa commenced, when an elegant and classical oration was delivered by Professor Oliver, late of *Salem.* It is said to have been written in a style of neat simplicity and perspicuity seldom surpassed.—The Society elected the Hon. Daniel Webster, of Boston, for their President during the ensuing year.—*ibid.*

SPEED THE PLOUGH.

THE subscriber (late President of the Berkshire Agricultural Society) convinced of the importance of disseminating *improved* Agricultural Implements, and that it only can be effected in an efficient manner, thro' the medium of persons who are *practically* conversant with, and able to judge of their true merits from experience, proposes to open a REPOSITORY for the sale, *on commission*, of all kinds of Agricultural Implements and Machinery.—*Likewise*, for Prime Seeds, and approved Agricultural Books.

It being the object of the subscriber to bring into use such articles only as possess real merit, it is proper to remark, that he will offer none for sale but such as he may be really acquainted with, or which he shall have previously tested by experience.

Letters, *post paid*, will be duly attended to, and all favors gratefully acknowledged.

THOMAS MELVILL, Jn.

Pittsfield, (Berkshire Co.) Sept. 10, 1822.

☞ *The following is but little inferior to Thomson's famous "Palemon and Lavinia."*

THE MILK MAID AND HER LOVER.

Who hath not heard
Of Patty, the fair milk maid? Beautiful
As an Arcadian nymph; upon her brow
Sat virgin modesty, while in her eyes
Young sensibility began to play
With innocence. Her waving locks fell down
On either side her face in careless curls,
Shading the tender blushes in her cheek.
Her breath was sweeter than the morning gale
Stol'n from the rose or violet's dewy leaves.
Her ivory teeth appear'd in even rows,
Through lips of living coral. When she spoke
Her features wore intelligence; her words
Were soft, with such a smile accompanied,
As lighted in her face resistless charms.
Her polish'd neck rose rounding from her breast
With pleasing elegance:
Her shape was moulded by the hand of ease,
Exact proportion harmoniz'd her frame;
While grace, following her steps, with secret art
Stole into all her motions. There she walk'd
In sweet simplicity; a snow white pail
Hung on her arm, the symbol of her skill
In that fair province of the rural state
The dairy; source of more delicious bowls
Than Bacchus from his choisest vintage boasts.

How great the power of beauty! the rude swains
Grew civil at her sight; and gaping crowds,
Wrapt in astonishment, with transport gaze,
Whispering her praises in each other's ear.
As when a gentle breeze, borne through the grove
With quick vibration shakes the trembling leaves,
And hushing murmurs run from tree to tree,
So ran a spreading whisper through the crowd.
Young Thyrsis hearing, turn'd aside his head,
And soon the pleasing wonder caught his eye.
Full in the prime of youth, the joyful heir
Of numerous acres, a large freehold farm,
Thyrsis as yet from beauty felt no pain,
Had seen no virgin he could wish to make
His wedded partner. Now his beating heart
Feels new emotion; now his fixed eye,
With fervent rapture dwelling on her charms,
Drinks in delicious draughts of new born love.
No rest the night, no peace the following day
Brought to his struggling heart; her beauteous form,
Her fair perfections, playing on his mind,
With pleasing anguish torture him. In vain
He strives to tear her image from his breast;
Each little grace, each dear bewitching look,
Return triumphant, breaking his resolves,
And binding all his soul a slave to love.

Ah! little did he know, alas! the while,
Poor Patty's tender heart in mutual pain,
Long, long for him had heav'd the secret sigh.
For him she drest, for him the pleasing arts
She studied, and for him she wish'd to live.
But her low fortunes, nursing sad despair,
Check'd her young hopes, nor durst her modest eyes
Indulge the smallest glances of her flame,
Lest curious malice, like a watchful spy,
Should catch the secret, and with taunts reveal.
Judge then the sweet surprise, when she at length
Beheld him all irresolute approach.
And gently taking her fair trembling hand
Breathe these soft words into her listening ear.
"O Patty! dearest maid, whose beauteous form
"Dwells in my breast, and charms my soul to love,
"Accept my vows; accept a faithful heart,
"Which from this hour devotes itself to thee;
"Wealth has no relish, life can give no joy,
"If you forbid my hope to call you mine."

Ah! who the sudden tumult can describe
Of struggling passions rising in her breast?
Hope, fear, confusion, modesty and love
Oppress her laboring soul;—she strove to speak,
But the faint accents died upon her tongue:
Her fears prevented utterance:—at length
"Can Thyrsis mock my poverty? Can he
"Be so unkind? O no! yet I, alas,
"Too humble e'en to hope"—No more she said;
But gently, as if half unwilling, stole
Her hand from his; and with sweet modesty,
Casting a look of diffidence and fear,
To hide her blushes, silently withdrew.
But Thyrsis read with rapture in her eyes
The language of her soul. He follow'd, woo'd
And won her for his wife. His lowing herds
Soon call her mistress; soon their milky streams
Coagulated, rise in circling piles
Of harden'd curd; and all the dairies round
To her sweet butter yield superior praise.

INDUSTRY AND FRUGALITY.

Extracts from Dr. Franklin's writings, which cannot be too often read, nor too long remembered.

If we are industrious, we shall never starve; for at the working man's house, hunger looks in, but dares not enter. Nor will the bailiff or the constable enter, for "Industry pays debts, while despair increaseth them." What though you have found no treasure, nor has any rich relation left you a legacy, "diligence is the mother of good luck, and God gives all things to industry. Then plough deep while sluggards sleep, and you shall have corn to sell and to keep. The diligent spinner has good clothes, and now I have a sheep and a cow, every body bids me good morrow."

Remember what poor Richard says, "Buy what thou hast no need of and ere long thou shalt sell thy necessaries." And again, "at a great pennyworth pause a while;" he means perhaps, that the cheapness is apparent only, and not real; or the bargain, by straitening thee in thy busiuess, may do thee more harm than good.

"If you would know the value of money, go and try to borrow some; for he who goes a borrowing goes a sorrowing," as poor Richard says; and indeed so does he that lends to such people, when he goes to get it again.

"Creditors have better memories than debtors—creditors are a superstitious sect, great observers of set days and times."

Remember that time is money. He that can earn ten shillings a day by his labor, and goes abroad or sets idle one half of that day, though he spends but sixpence during his diversion or idleness, ought not to reckon that the only expense—he has really spent, or thrown away five shillings besides.

Remember this saying, "the good paymaster is lord of another man's purse." He that is known to pay punctually and exactly at the time he promises, may at any time, and on any occasion, raise all the money his friends can spare.

The most trifling actions that affect a man's credit are to be regarded. The sound of your hammer at five in the morning, or at nine at night, heard by a creditor, makes him easy six months longer; but if he sees you at a billiard table, or hears your voice at a tavern, when you should be at work, he sends for his money the next day—demands it before he can receive it in a lump.

Beware of thinking all your own that you possess, and of living accordingly. It is a mistake that many people who have credit fall into. To prevent this, keep an exact account, for some time, both of your expenses and your income. If you take the pains at first to mention particulars, it will have this good effect—you will discover how wonderfully small trifling expenses amount up to large sums, and will discern what might have been and may for the future be saved, without occasioning any great inconvenience.

In short the way to wealth, if you desire it, is as plain as the way to market. It depends chiefly on two words, *industry* and *frugality*.

LAW OF PATENTS.

CHARLES EWER, No. 51, Cornhill, has just published, price $3,50, *bound,*

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"As the West Indies had never been discovered "without the discovery of the Mariner's Needle; so it "cannot seem strange, if Science be no farther devel-"oped, if the Art itself of Invention and Discovery be "passed over."—Bacon.

The second edition, with large additions, corrected and improved by the author.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS TO THE AUTHOR.

Salem, Sept. 4, 1821.

Sir—I have examined your MS. on the Law of Patents with as much care as my engagements would permit, and I have no hesitation in expressing my opinion, that the work will be highly useful to all persons who are engaged in obtaining patents, or in vindicating them in Courts of Justice. The manuscript contains a collection of all the cases, on the subject of Patents, within my knowledge; and the principles contained in them are detailed with accuracy and fullness in the Summary, at the conclusion. I know of no work so comprehensive as yours on this subject; and it may be relied on as a safe guide. I hope you will receive encouragement sufficient to justify the publication, which I should think would be profitable as well as extensively useful. JOSEPH STORY.

Thomas G. Fessenden, Esq.

Boston, Sept. 25, 1821.

Sir—We have looked over the manuscript of the second edition of your publication on the Law of Patents. This edition is a great improvement on the first, and we think it will be a valuable and useful book to the profession, as it contains the statutes, and states we believe accurately, all, or nearly all the decisions, which have been made on a branch of the law, daily growing more interesting and important.

WM. PRESCOTT,
D. WEBSTER.

Thomas G. Fessenden, Esq.

Boston, Sept. 27, 1821.

Sir—The new edition of your Essay on Patent-Law, which I have taken some time to examine, is a very improved work. More ample materials, furnished to your hands, by decisions, subsequent to your former edition, have enabled you to present to the public and the bar a more minute analysis, as well as a more comprehensive view of this branch of law than has yet appeared in England or in this country. Your method of arranging all the decisions, in the order of an annalytical digest of the several requirements and provisions of our statutes for granting patents, puts the lawyer at once in possession of the judicial construction of the statutes; while your synthetic summary, far more extended and comprehensive than in the former edition, place within reach of the mechanic a sure means of judging whether his invention is a fit subject for a Patent; what is required of him by the statute in order to obtain his Patent; and what provisions are enacted for securing to himself and heirs his meritorious privilege. I cannot conclude without wishing you the success your labors surely deserve.

GEORGE SULLIVAN.

Thomas G. Fessenden, Esq.

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